

Dear Marges

In a phone call from Sandy in effect I was told I was all wet in my conclusions, (But my gut feelings don't tell me that.) Actions speak louder than words. I was told that Kim said the Romance went out the window the Day at ~~Scotts~~ Berry Farm when I touched her ~~physically~~ intimately. I figured if she didn't ~~like~~ like it she'd push me away or something and then that night she came home with me what was I supposed to think. And I didn't even make a move that night except to kiss her. I was falling asleep on my feet I was really exhausted. We didn't do anything till the next day & all I intended was to take a nap. She made the move to undress. After that we were never alone together Sandy was always there. No wonder I didn't feel too Romantic. Not to mention all the scenes. Thanks I can live without all that. I also saw where I could have got caught up in a "power ~~dominance~~ ^{dominance} situation" & I didn't like myself in that role where you take someone willing or not and also someone else has been loving on your woman and later your woman is making love to you. That's what happened the night after we

#2

got done moving Kim & Sandy. I didn't like myself the next day and that's when I decided to Break it off. I have to live with my conscience. making love to someone & not caring who sees or whatever is wrong ^{as is} not going about anything about what you're doing.

What is hard is listening to someone who can make it all sound like a big misunderstanding ect. and almost falling into a trap & although I said I'd see them again I don't think they believe it anymore than I do. I really don't want to see them. They both need help & therapy badly. I've had enough of my own hangups.

There is some good going to come out of all this. First I got jolted out of my safe quiet world that should open my eyes to the brutality on earth & self destruction
object - learn compassion and to rise above your own pain.
& Rather be alone than in that kind of situation alone with its merits
It also was the catalyst to the short sermon I preached on the "needs of the People" It got to me that if I didn't do it God would not let me rest. I don't know what God has in mind for me but eventually I'll probably find out.

#3

On a more personal note I have experienced
a sexual revival For a very long time it's been a
vacancy my ^{long} Sexuality took a vacation & I ~~thought~~
thought my response system died. No interest no getting
off even if self-induced I finally gave up on it, a two year
desert it seemed like *nice changes have come about*
Now & Behold my blood is running hot again
I hardly believe it It feels great to be alive again.

It's been quite a learning experience
Watch out Ventura County.

January 29th

An interesting note Ventura has a new
Bar The Wild Goose It's a Gay Bar no
Dancing But it has 2 pool tables I guess it's doing
well. It's 2 blocks from where I work on
main St. *Convenient huh*

Lance Phillips was laid off his job
at Stetters Chapel we know what ever But
you can't prevent. He has a new job
with Payne-Webber Stockbrokers. He will
start ~~training~~ training soon more \$ his pay plus
 $\frac{1}{2}$ he made at Stetters. 6 Am to 2 pm Paid
Vacation Oct Hope he does well. My Rep.
in this town must be real hot I get some

San the mountain has working as a
waiter at the town house in Ventura

4

Strange reactions sometimes.

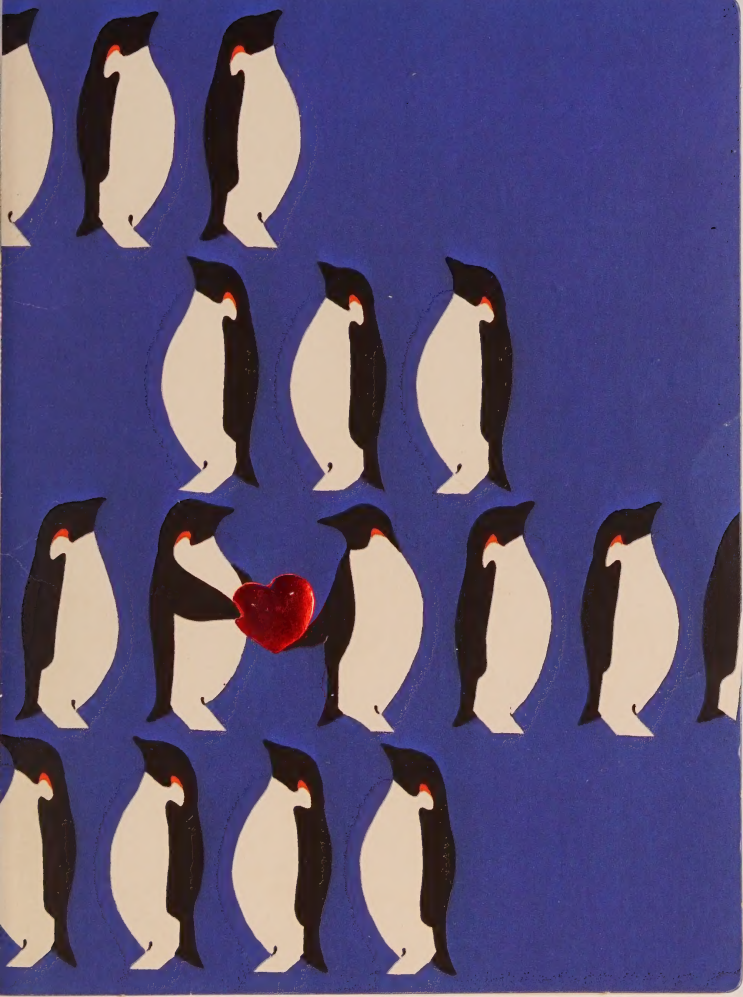
My Rep at Church I'm not sure of but Wally Ford told me what Reputation (yours is so quiet ^{referring} love life) otherwise I guess I'm known as a real nice person. Lince tells me he hasn't heard anything bad about me. I guess I'm just a sweet hearted angel ☺

I have got to confess something when Paul first came here I couldn't stand him and I resented his presence. It's funny how time changes things. Over the summer we worked together to keep things running smooth (as possible) now we're good friends. Paul & I set up church together ~~we~~ lean on each other with out dumping on each other. Partners in Crime Ha Ha. The Guys at work think Paul & I have something going because of our ~~different~~ different work hours. It's easier for us to set up meetings and answer questions over the phone (it's easier to get me at work) I go around ~~smiling~~ ^{Smiling} Cause I know what I am & they don't. It's strange I feel another door opening in the closet. I have visited the Wild Goose a couple of times and plan to go there tomorrow night. I+5 2 BLOCKS FROM Ventura High.



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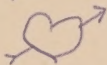
<https://archive.org/details/2174.01.15>



Whenever I want
to feel good about life
all I have to do is remember
that I have you
for a friend.

Dear Marge & Sheila

Happy Valentines Day



Extrem Penguins and Polar Bears and
all ~~other~~ North Pole creatures
I don't know how you survive such
Winters on the 22nd of January it froze
hard here I went out at 7am my Truck
was covered in frost could not see out
ft. OR HEAR OR driver side windows for the
frost. drives us crazy a few nights
cold frosty then Warm & Balmey fog etc.
East wind off snow, rain now & then But
mostly has been cold. (for Me) I've
used the heater more this winter than
any other send me news of you guys & your
church etc. Doing pretty well But I
need prayer for finances ^{my} Bills are awful &
my Truck has gone up again ^{#26154} Love Linda Derb



Personal Expression

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Hallmark

I went down to Juan Warts Church De Colores
in Congo Park had a great time Its always
great to be around feminist minds ect its like
a breath of fresh air there is a lot of ~~fire~~ fiery
spirit It was also great to see Ruth Gough
had not seen her since the Inclusive Language
Workshop. We are having a Valentines
Day Dance from the feed back at the bar we
just might have a large crowd. Im about
ready for this 4 day Holiday Friday the
12th being Lincolns B. Day and Monday being
Washingtons on the 15th Im off work for three
Days We are getting more people involved
in Church & Church Projects next Sunday

11
I'm going to try out for "Markings" its a
anthology of works by famous Gay &
Lesbian people. Something that frank
compiled a show that He did back in
Pittsberg We are going to do Here and take
it to other M.C.'s who would like to see
the show. There is reading & Songs, Dancing
ect. I think its going to be neat.

Well I have a lot of things to do

Write me soon

With Love

Linda J. Derbyshire

... This do in remembrance of me.

LUKE 22:19



Rev MARGE
AND MISSY

May all the blessings
of the risen Saviour
come to you at this holy season.

Happy Easter

Love IN CHRIST,

CAROL AND
BARBARA



Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura CA 93002

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Services 6:30 p.m.
(805) 985-2594

JOB DESCRIPTION

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CARPINTERIA, CA.

6-2-83

THERES ALSO ROOM FOR BABY-CHRISTIANS.

Hi MARGE —

MAY WAS A TIGHT MONTH FOR ME FINANCIALLY. BEEN BUYING TOO MANY ATTORNEYS FOR MY "ORPHANS". HOWEVER, JUST GOT BACK FROM TEXAS AFTER VISITING WITH THE "FANS" HAVE PICKED UP SUE AVERITT, WHO IS A WINNER. WHAT A NICE PERSON SHE IS!

SO, DIDN'T MAKE IT TO BOSTON. NO BIGGY. I'LL BE THERE IN AUT. HOWEVER! ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPEAKING TO YOUR GROUP MID-WEEK (ON THE PRISON MINISTRY AND LOVE OF OUR SISTERS + BROTHERS)?

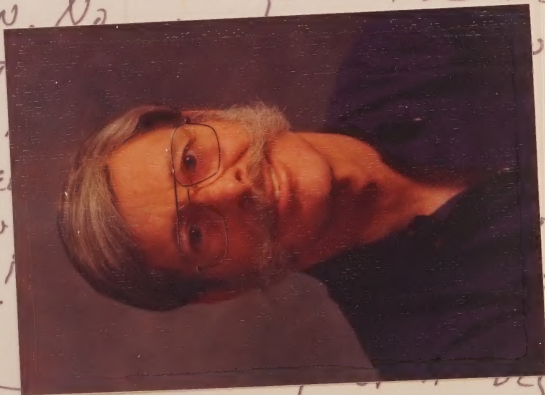
MCC: S. B. IS DOIN' GREAT. FRANK + I HAVE UPDATED OUR COPIER: AND WE SPLUGGED ON A

110 "WORD PROCESSOR" (SP).

CHAW IS ON THE "NEVER-NEVER". BUT THATS O.K. TOO.

THE JOY OF THE OUT-REACH IN THE PRISON MINISTRY HAS MADE ME SOMEONE ELSE. I'VE COME A LONG WAY FROM MICKY-MOUSE. SEE ENCLOSED PHOTO. I'M NOW A VIETNAMESE BABY-DOCTOR TYPE (ALL MUSTACHE). OH WELL, IMAGE, IMAGE.

MARGE — I'VE NEVER BEEN HAPPIER + FRANK HAVE ME THE WAY.



THE WORLD FOR

TO THE RANCH
VEGETABLE GARDEN.

Love + Kisses. —

CHAW



Those
who take rides
on rainbows
and hear music
from dusty violins
know that
life is a many
splendoured thing.

FLAVIA

CARPINTERIA, CA.

6-2-83

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OH WELL, /MARGE, /MARGE.

MARGE — I'VE NEVER BEEN HAPPIER IN MY LIFE. YOU + FRANK HAVE PATIENTLY SHOWN ME THE WAY.

TKS. LOVE!!

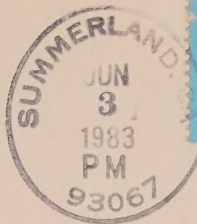
ALL THE BEST IN THE WORLD FOR YOU + YOUR FLOCK.

TOMORROW I GO TO THE RANCH AND LAY-OUT A VEGETABLE GARDEN.

LOVE + KISSES. —

CHAW.

CHANDLER M. WARD
3359 PADARO LN.
CARPINTERIA, CAL.
93013



REV. MARGE RAGONA
M.C.C. BOSTON
131 CAMBRIDGE STREET
BOSTON, MASS. 02114





*May you have
moments of beauty today...*

Dear Marge & Shelio

Life is interesting - it seems its either
feast or famine when you have someone
everyone is willing to be your partner when
your not involved no one seems to notice
you. alas the luck of the Irish on St.
Patricks ^{50th} It had rained and the County saw a
double rainbow my Parents celebrated their 25th
silver anniversary and after work I dropped by
the wild goose (I hadnt intended ^{to} earlier) and
met Shelley Woods over a game of pool. there
was real attraction by both of us & neither of
us had been looking. at last someone with
their ~~stuff~~ stuff thats all together this is heaven
by comparison to that horrible mess last time.
Shelley & I have different ~~kind~~ ^{kind} of ~~hours~~ ^{hours} she
works Days on Weekends & Wed. I work M-F EVES

But we are working it out as best we can
she also has a baptist background like me I
have got her to come to MCC she had been intended
to come but never got around to it. she likes MCC
We take it one day at a time. I got a call from
nick Vontack his ship finally came in Tom &
nick are living in San Diego I have been
invited down to visit might do it for vacation
see SD. and T.J. Mexico. BJ has a job in
Comerillo I believe.
...moments to treasure

tomorrow.

Rosemary is having a tough time with the
cancer drugs she had surgery on the face in the
chin area shes healing well. Paul is painting
the insides of apartments for a living Walley
is a sweetheart I feel close to him Prayers for
Tim and Terry They broke up for good this time
I believe. Well write soon Take care
Shelia you can write. With love
Linda Derby... etc

Personal Expression



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FOR YOU ON MOTHER'S DAY

Thought



and fretted



and pondered
real hard,



fussed
and fumed



about choosing
your card,



But all of them seemed to be
meant just for you--

Ambassador Cards

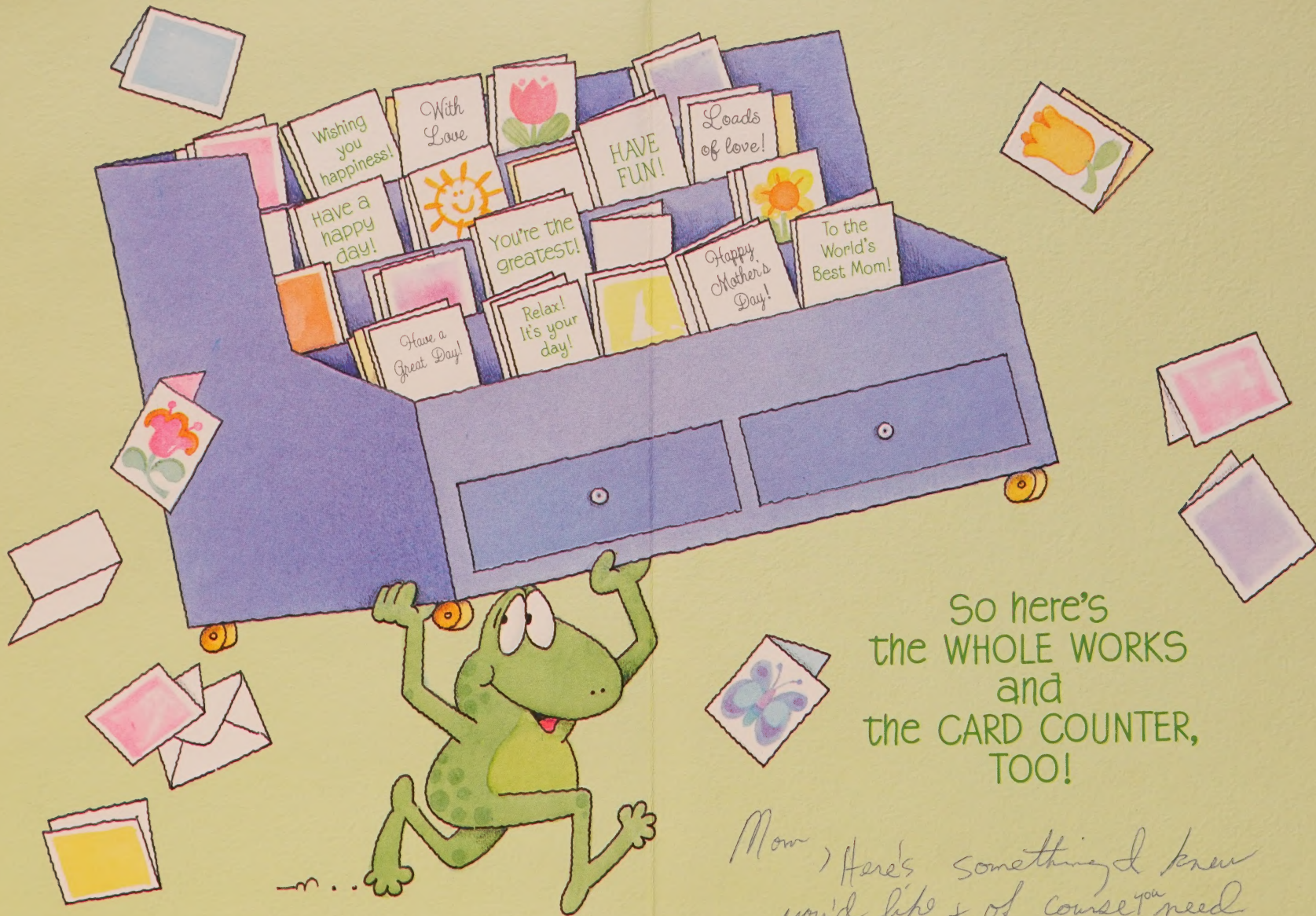


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09-03



So here's
the **WHOLE WORKS**
and
the **CARD COUNTER,**
TOO!

Now, Here's something I knew
you'd like + of course ^{you} need
Another **FROG!!!** Love ya,
Daved

TRIP & TRAVEL



75M 592-6
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*"Good-bye" is not an ending
when you know that people care,
For miles may come between you
but warm thoughts are always there...
"Good-bye" is not an ending
but a different start for you,
A time for making brand-new friends
and seeing dreams come true...
"Good-bye" is not an ending,
for you'll find along life's way,
Within your heart you'll always have
a part of yesterday.*

AMANDA BRADLEY

August 1983

Marge & Pat

May the sun be shining brightly
wherever you may go,
May your heart be blessed
with happiness and love,
May new friends
always cherish you
the way your old friends do,
May you always find
the joys you're dreaming of.

With Love

Linda J. Derbyshire

Come & Celebrate



M C C



SPRING FIESTA

MAY 8, 1982

4949 FOOTHILL RD.

VENTURA, CA

653- 5291

8pm to
Midnight



\$3.50
Donation



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Worship 6:30 PM
805-653-5291

Rev. Frank W. Scott
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura, CA. 93002

April 1982

Pastor's Corner

Wow! Today's the day! I looked out the window and there it was. So I rushed outside to be sure it was true. There in the garden, which was a mud puddle for days after last week's heavy rain, and a barren-looking patch of ground the rest of the time, were the first signs of new life. Overnight - tiny spears of green where the corn is sprouting, bulbous leaves emerging where the beans are dislodging small clods of earth in their drive to the sun - our garden is beginning.

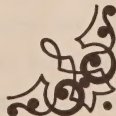
This is always a moment of great excitement. Preparing the ground and planting the seeds is both work and fun. But the moment when the seeds turn into tiny plants pushing through the soil, this is the greatest time. I feel within myself the affirmation of God's love and a deep wonder at the beauty of new life with its promise of a rich harvest. And more.

Today is the day before Easter. I am mindful of the Apostle Paul's admonition, "The seed you sow does not come to life unless it has first died." (I Cor. 15:36 NEB) On Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus

MCC VENTURA MINISTERIAL STAFF

Pastor
Deacon
Candidates

Rev. Frank W. Scott
Linda Derbyshire
Paul Paoletti
Bob Ray



Telephone 653-5291

Christ from the dead, the renewal of his life and the promise of our life eternally with him. My garden reminds me that God's love is ever constant and God's promise ever true. As my seeds died in order to live, so in death we shall find eternal life. "O Death, where is you victory? O Death, where is your sting?...God be praised, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 15:55, 57 NEB)

Pastor Frank

Board Notes

The Board of Directors met on Sunday, April 4, following the worship service. The Treasurer reported that our income exceeded the first quarter's budget by \$300. Our current membership is 44 (34 active, 10 inactive). The Board decided to implement the pastor's bonus, approved at the congregational meeting, at the beginning of April. A yard sale and car wash are being planned as fund-raisers for the near future. A building fund was established and the decision made to celebrate the church's anniversary in June with a special worship service. The Board will meet again on April 18 to draw up a projected full-time pastor's financial package.

District Conference

Southwest District Conference is rapidly approaching on the weekend of May 21 - 23, hosted by MCC Fresno. As one who has been to many district conferences in many cities around the US of A, I strongly urge all who are able to get away for a weekend to plan on joining our brothers and sisters from all over the district in learning about ourselves and each other as we go about the work of being God's church.

Dear Friend,

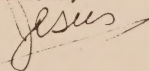
How are you? I just had to send you this letter to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day, hoping that you would walk and talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day, and a cool breeze to rest you. Then I waited, but you never came. O yes, it hurt me, but I still love you because you are my friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night, and I longed to touch your brow, so I spilled moonlight upon your pillow and your face... Again I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you.

You awakened late this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain. Today you looked so sad, so alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me many times, but I love you. I try to tell you in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves and trees, and breathe it in the color of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams, and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need you could ever have.

We will spend eternity together in heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really know, because I was there, and I want to help you. My parent wants to help you, too. God's that way, you know. Just call me, ask me, talk to me. It is your decision... I have chosen you, and because of this I will wait... Because I love you.

Your friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesus". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the word.

Easter Service

Easter morning service was a glorious time of celebration and sharing with our sister congregation in Santa Barbara. The weather may not have been ideal, but our spirits were not dampened by the fact that God chose to shower us with rain as well as the blessings of the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Rev. Scott delivered the sermon in his usual fantastic style and left us all with a lot to think about. How often we chose to listen to God's message in the Resurrection and accept without really believing what is really being said to us!

Calendar

Saturday, May 8
Spring Fiesta 8-midnight

Saturday, May 15
Dignity - homemade Pizza
and beer party

May 21 - 23 District Conference
in Fresno, CA

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METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Worship 6:30 PM
805-653-5291

Rev. Frank W. Scott
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura, CA. 93002

DECEMBER, 1982

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Pastor's Corner

The silence of the cave-like room was heavy with the odors of sweat and blood. The hiss of flaming torches and the restless stirring of animals on the hard-packed clay floor blended into an undercurrent of sound amid the flickering shadows. A long, drawn out moan, halfway between a sigh and a wail, then the sharp smack of flesh against flesh, and a baby's high pitched, waivering cry shattered the silence. The child was born. Gentle hands cleansed the tiny form of streaked blood and mucous. The newborn infant, his arms flung out as if to ward off this cold, strange world of light and sound, was settled into a roughly woven coverlet, so unlike the dark, protecting warmth of his mother's body. The torches hissed and the animals stirred restlessly, but the silence was broken.

From our childhood fantasies and adult scepticism, we have contrived a fairytale setting for the birth of Jesus. We speak of the stable without thought of the rough-hewn beams and strong animal smells. We sing of the birth without awareness of the pain and bloody reality which accompanied it. In short, we treat the miracle, which Christmas commemorates, as a pleasant tale or a pretty, once-upon-a-time story, far removed from the realities of life.

As we find ourselves caught up increasingly in the frantic, party atmosphere of the Christmas season, let us pause to reflect on the One whose birth we celebrate, whose life and death were dedicated to sharing God's truth with us, and whose resurrection is the promise of our own eternal life. The manger-cradle was but the first stop en route to the cross, and the life of Jesus was filled with the realities of joy and sorrow, of love and hatred, of hope and despair, even as our own. There was no myth in the straw which cradled his infant body or in the cold stone slab which held that same body, broken in death - or in the great stone rolled back to reveal his triumphant victory over the grave.

What does it mean? What is the measure of this love? That coming from a plane of existence which our finite minds cannot comprehend, Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God, was born as we are born, lived as we live, and died as we shall die. Christmas is the celebration of the love proclaimed in the immortal words, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior....," "Immanuel, God-with- us!"

Pastor Frank

Board Notes

The Board of Directors of MCC Ventura held its monthly meeting on Sunday, December 12. It was noted that our current membership is 39 (33 active, 6 inactive) and that our offerings in November totaled \$1,261.47, just above our \$300 a week budget requirement. Average attendance for the month was 32.

Among the items of business discussed were the following:

- 1) Proceeds from the Ventura Street Fair were around \$80, well below last year's profit.
- 2) Annual Congregational Meeting. Three members will be elected to the Board of Directors and the First Quarter, 1983 Budget will be presented.
- 3) The Pledge Campaign to underwrite the budget will take place during the first three weeks of January.

Church Calendar

Sunday Evenings - 5:30 P.M. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 P.M. Worship Service
8:00 P.M. Fellowship

Monday Evenings - 8:00 P.M. Lay-led Bible Study. Call 483-7700 for information.

Saturday, December 18 - 6:30 P.M. Christmas Caroling. Meet in the parking lot of 703 N. Ventura Rd., Oxnard. Warm fire and refreshments at Bill Schisler's afterwards.

Sunday, December 19 - 8:30 P.M. Annual Congregational Meeting following the worship service. Election for the Board of Directors and presentation of the 1983 Budget.

Friday, December 24 - 8:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Service at 1853 Ives Ave., Oxnard. Call 483-7700 for directions.

Sunday, January 9 - Board of Directors meeting following worship service.

Friday, January 28 - Dinner Party at a Supper Club. \$16.00 per person includes dinner and entertainment. Call 483-7700 for more information and reservations.

"'Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE JESUS CAME"

'Twas the night before Jesus came
And all through the house
No one had been praying,
Not me nor my spouse.
Our Bibles were all tucked
In the closets with care,
(We'd forgotten that God could see even there.)
The children were nestled
All snug in their beds,
With no thought of kneeling
Or bowing their heads.
Mama in her kerchief
And I in my cap

Had just settled down
For a long-needed nap.
When out of the East
A trumpet did sound.
I sprang from my bed
And looked all around.
Away to the window
I flew like a flash,
I opened the shutters
And threw up the sash.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But angels proclaiming
That Jesus was here!
With a light like the sun,
So bright was the ray,
I knew in a moment
It must be THAT day.
The book of life
He held tight in His hand
And written in blood
Was the life of each man.
Each deed and every word,
'Twas enough to reveal
Who belonged to the Lord
His promise made real.
And though I knew fame,
And had much wealth,
I cried when I saw Him
In spite of myself.
The light of His face
Made me bow my head
Before Jesus of Nazareth,
God, ... raised from the dead.
He spoke not a word
As He searched for my name.
Then He said, "It's not written."
My head hung in shame.
But the people whose names
Had been written in blood,
He gathered and ascended
To the Father above.
With those He accepted
He arose without sound,
And those He rejected
Were left standing around.
I fell to my knees
Just moments too late.
I had waited too long
And thus sealed my fate.
And I heard Him exclaim
As they rose out of sight;
"Come now, my beloved,
To My kingdom of light."

Unknown

"Watch ye therefore....lest coming suddenly He find you sleeping."
Mark 13:35,36.

Deacon's Beacon

Here it is almost Christmas again. Where does the time go? Some of you are probably still trying to think of yet another way to serve that left-over bird. Here's a hint: take the left-over carcass, with those bits of hard to get at pieces of meat and dressing still on it in a pot of water until the meat falls off, remove the bones, add some fresh vegetables and noodles, and you have a hot and hardy lunch for a cold, dreary day.

For most of us, this is the busiest time of the year. There are always so many things to do that should have been done during the summer. While we are trying to get caught up with all those left-over chores, we are trying to get our Christmas cards out in the mail, and deciphering our address list. If your friends move as much as some of mine, it's not a bad idea to start a new address book.

Once all the Christmas cards are in the mail, it's time to go shopping. Check your list carefully to make sure you have everyone on it. There's Mom and Dad, brothers and sisters, friends and lovers. Is there anyone else? There's always someone who gets left off the list, but you can't remember who just now. Maybe you'll think of who it is while you are shopping. How can anyone think during the mad holiday crowds in the stores is beyond me. The only thing I can think about is if I brought along enough money for all those gifts I have to buy.

It is now the evening before Christmas. All the presents are wrapped and under the tree. You're tired and you're broke. You fix yourself a cup of tea and collapse in your easy-chair to survey all you've done in the past couple weeks. Now you start thinking; "Did I do everything? Did I forget anyone? Everything has been checked on the list, so I guess I'm ready for Christmas."

Guess again friend. You have forgotten the most important person of all. The reason for Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. What did you give Him for Christmas? Was He on your Christmas list? Probably not. The stores are closed so you can't go and buy Him anything. What are you going to give Him? Look at all the wonderful things He has given you all year. You really should give Him something in return. Why not give Him the best gift of all, yourself? It is very easy to do and doesn't need any wrapping. A commitment to Jesus Christ is the most valuable gift you can give, and He will remember you and love you forever in return.

I hope you all have a happy and blessed holiday season; and please, keep CHRIST in CHRISTmas.

Bob

EACH ONE REACH ONE

HAPPY NEW YEAR

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF
SANTA BARBARA



Rev. Roger E. Webb, Minister

December 16, 1980

Metropolitan Community Church, Ventura
P. O. Box A-0
Ventura, CA 93002

Clerk of M.C.C., Ventura:

Ron Lidstrom has requested that we transfer his membership to your church roll. Ron has been an asset to our body in Santa Barbara, and we truly regret losing his fellowship. May the two of you be a blessing to each other.

Please let us know when you have accepted him into your membership, so that we may release his membership on that date.

Respectfully,

CHRIS JON RICKETTS
CLERK,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
M.C.C., SANTA BARBARA

cjr

cc:Ron Lidstrom
251 Princeton Avenue
Ventura, CA 93003
:file



CERTIFICATE of CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

This is to certify

that RON LIDSTROM

was received as a member by the congregation of
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

in the city of Santa Barbara state of California

on the Second day of November 19 80

Confessing Jesus, The Christ, as Sovereign and Savior

the Reverend

Roger E. Webb
Signature

Pastor

Roger E. Webb



The Houses of Parliament and the River Thames, London.

Photo : E. Nägele, John Himde Studios.

KARDORAMA



Hello MCC-

The building on front here is really the MCC of London, the just don't want to tell!!

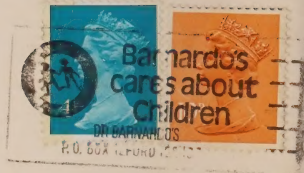
MCC London has been extremely warm, wonderful and helpful! I find the pastor Jean White a grand lady and her and her lady, Chris, have taken great care of me. The church is of about 50+ every Sunday. We have had a "Tramps" supper the other day with a sing a long and jig. I sang my first Sunday here. The land is wonderful but EXPENSIVE!



THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND THE RIVER THAMES: The Houses of Parliament and Big Ben are situated on the north bank of the river Thames. Big Ben is now the name given to the whole of the 23 feet diameter clock, which keeps unerring time in the Clock Tower of the Houses of Parliament, but originally it was the name given to the enormous bell, installed in 1858, which strikes the hours. When the House is in session at night, the lantern above the clock is always kept alight.

Printed in Ireland

Be home soon - God Bless - Kimberley Jay



MCC- VENTURA

c/o P.O. Box AO

Ventura, CA, USA93002

By air mail
Par avion

'Tis a Pleasure
Bein' Friends With You



60SP 51-3
© HALLMARK CARDS, INC.
MADE IN U.S.A.
03-01

March 83

Marge

'Tis joy that you give
any time you are near
By bein' so thoughtful,
so kind, and so dear...
Sure your friendship's a blessin'
each day of the year.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Happiness Always!

Though we're very far away
in miles, 'tis only a second
in a heart beat that brings
us close together with a smile
for those we hold dear
all my love
Linda Jean Derbyshire



7920 Brannan St.
Ventura, CA 93004
December 12, 1981

Dear Marge, Sheila, Missy, Addie, and Nancy;

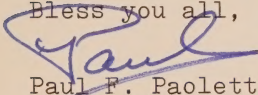
Boy, after that greeting, I am real glad that your family isn't any larger or I would need to transfer to an 11x17 sheet of paper. I hope that this letter finds all of you in the best of health, happiness, peace, joy, love and warmth. I can't say that I envy your being in the northeast for a white Christmas. The temperature got into the high 70's or low 80's here in Ventura today, and I really didn't miss the snow and cold at all. Everything here is going quite well, and as you can see by the enclosure, Frank is being officialy installed as Pastor tomorrow evening. We had a congregational meeting last sunday, and it was a beaut. We finally approved a new 3 month budget of \$1200 per month. We are paying Frank \$150 per week, as of the first of the year. I was really quite surprised when most of the 23 members present were vocally in favor of so doing. The vote was 21-2. Tim Kelly is our new Assistant District Coordinator for the Southeast District. Lois Lunneberg had her membership transferred back to Vta, Daryl and Bob Had theirs reactivated, and Daryl is now playing piano for us every Sunday. Tom Hale stepped down as board member at the end of his term, and Kathy and Carla are moving to Colorado on the 28th of December. The board now consists of Wally Ford, Rosemary Fessler, Ron Lidstrom, Tim Kelly, and Betty Johnson. David Mason, the friend that Bob Arthur went up to Ojai to visit the night he came to dinner at our house, and by the way onr of the founding members of the church, has become very active and as a matter of fact, has just

donated to the church 50 copies of Hymns for the Family of God.

HALLELUJAH!!

He has been instrumental in getting Ray Ramos into attending on a regular basis, Dave just goes to Ray's home and says "Get in the car." We have a baptimal pool once again, Dave has offered us the use of the pool at his home because he feels that he should. The church was using his pool during the time of Virgil Scott. Chan has formally withdrawn his membership from MCC Ventura, and has gone back to Sta. Barbara as a friend. Well that's about all the news from here. What is going on in Boston and the Northeast District? many people out here wish that we would hear from you once in a while, including yours truely. Please drop us at least a postcard once every six months.

Bless you all,



Paul F. Paoletti

you know - the rest of you
can write as well - if your
arms are out of the casts yet.



4667 TELEGRAPH ROAD, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93003 (805) 642-3211

June 17, 1981

Marge Ragona
Metropolitan Church of Ventura
4949 Foothill Rd.
Ventura, CA 93003

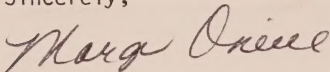
Dear Marge,

I wanted to thank you for the presentation on
lesbianism on May 12th.

The students were generally favorable about the
information you presented. I believe it is
through forums like this that prejudice and
misunderstanding can be dispelled.

Thanks again for giving your time. I also wish
you luck in your new position in Boston.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marg O'Neill".

Margaret E. O'Neill
Women's Center Coordinator



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

Frank W. Scott
Rev. ~~Marge Ragona~~, Pastor
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura CA 93002

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Services 6:30 p.m.
(805) ~~983-2594~~ 485-9700

April 20, 1982

Reverend Marge Ragona
223 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Dear Marge:

Greetings from sunny Ventura! I trust this finds you well and enjoying the first touch of a New England Spring.

We are doing well here. Church attendance is around 40 each week and holding firm with a good financial base. I can hardly wait to see what will happen with the coming of Summer. I'm holding my breath, figuratively speaking.

Thank you for your letter! It was most helpful. The Board agrees that, given the circumstances, it is best to consider the telephone bill taken care of. We shall contact Mary and Jo regarding a portion of the bill, as you suggested. Your explanation cleared things up beautifully.

Regarding the Rudd's bill, I have located the Deacon books, so all that remains is the \$21.88 of your personal bill. We well understand the pressure of heating bills in the kind of winter you have just endured. Payment when you are able to handle it will be fine.

Thank you again for your prompt reply. It helped clear the air. I perceive that perhaps the primary irritant to the Board was that you did not reply to last October's letter. But all that is past and we closed the Board meeting with prayer for your ministry in Boston. You are remembered fondly in Ventura - without you there would be no MCC Ventura. The congregation here has not forgotten.

In Jesus' love,

Frank

Frank W. Scott

